sanctioned for the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar.

[English]

Promoting Gandhi's Ideas in South Africa

710. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have worked out any scheme for preserving and promoting Gandhi's ideas in South Africa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the contribution proposed to be made by our country for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India and South Africa are dedicated to the ideals and vision of the Mahatma Gandhi and to their common commitment to the preservation of Gandhi heritage sites in South Africa. The Prime Minister during his visit to South Africa in October, 1997 committed an initial assistant of the Government of India of US $100,000 for preserving the Gandhi heritage sites in South Africa. He also announced two awards for research on Mahatma Gandhi's pioneering activities in South Africa. The Government of India would also sponsor a Chair on Gandhi Studies at the University of Durban Westville in South Africa.

British Royal Navy's Warship HMS Westminster

711. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the British Royal Navy's warship HMS Westminster which was on a goodwill visit during Queen Elizabeth's visit to India, meted out a racist behaviour to the officials of the Indian Navy; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Indian Government to this gross impropriety on the part of the Royal Navy?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV): (a) An incident did take place during the visit of Royal Naval Ship HMS Westminster to Mumbai wherein two Indian officers who embarked the ship for trials of an equipment that was on offer for sale were not treated with courtesy that was due to them.

(b) The matter was taken up with ship authorities who conveyed their regret over the incident. The matter is also being taken up with MEA for further taking it up with the U.K. High Commissioner.

[Translation]

Payment of Scholarship

712. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the payment of scholarship has since been made to the students of Bihar selected under National Rural and State Talent Search Examination;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the scholarship amount is likely to be paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the Government of Bihar and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Sindhu Water Treaty

713. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to enforce the provisions of Sindhu Water Treaty between India and Pakistan for the allocation of water to meet the need of the people of Kutch where droughts are a regular feature; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) There is no provision in the Indus Waters Treaty 1960 between India and Pakistan for allocation of Indus waters for use in Kutch region, which falls outside the drainage basin for the Indus.

(b) Does not arise.

Establishment of Port Trust Control in Coastal Areas

714. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal in regard to the establishment of the port trust control in coastal areas is under consideration of the Government in view of safety of ships and to protect ocean from pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the date by which this port trust control is likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATARAMAN): (a) to (c) It is presumed that Hon'ble Member is referring to the Port State Control.

Government has been implementing the port State Control through Directorate General of Shipping and Mercantile Marine Departments at Indian Ports as per the requirements of various International Conventions to which India is a signatory. There is no proposal for establishment of a new Port State Control in Indian Ports. However, recently a proposal for formation of a Regional Memorandum of Understanding between the countries in Indian Ocean Region has been taken up with the sole purpose

of eliminating operation of substandard ships in our region.

Fifth Pay Commission's Recommendation of One Rank One Pension

715. SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fifth Pay Commission had recommended the grading of one rank on pension to all Ex-Servicemen;

(b) if so, whether the Government have accepted this recommendation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Protection of Animals in Zoos

716. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the animals died/suffered injuries in the Zoos in the country due to visitors or the employees' negligence or while bringing them from other places, during the last three years;

(b) whether there have been any instances where any animals died while bringing them from another Zoos recently;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen the preventive measures to protect the animals in the Zoos?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Sporadic incidences of animals dying/suffering of injuries in zoos because of the negligence of visitors or due to the negligence of the employees of zoos come to the notice of the Government from time to time. Recently the case of tiger getting out of its enclosure and mauling the zoo keeper at Mysore Zoo was reported. The tiger had to be shot down to save the life of the keeper.

In the National Zoological Park, Delhi, one Sambar and one Black buck died because of the consumption of polythene bags with left over food.

The incidences of animals dying because of shock and trauma during transport from one zoo to another are reported occassionally.

However, instances of animals dying because of negligence of zoo employees/visitors and during transportation from one zoo to another are insignificant in comparision to rate of mortality from sickness and injury.

(b) & (c) One Red Crown crane died during 1996-97 while it was being brought from Ueno Zoological Park, Japan to Kanpur Zoological Park, U.P., India.

(d) Following steps are taken to strengthen the preventive measures to protect the animals in zoos :

(i) The keepers are provided training in handling the animals safely.

(ii) Special programmes are conducted to educate visitors to refrain from teasing the animals.

(iii) Only experienced and skilled staff accompany animals being transported from one zoo to another.

(iv) Animals are transported from one zoo to another in appropriate sized cages. In respect of air journey International Air Transport Association Regulations are being followed.

(v) Provision has been made in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 (Amended in 1991) to deal with the persons teasing the animals.

Compensation to Hirakud Dam Oustees

717. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:

SHRI A.C.JOS:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether even after forty years of construction of the Hirakud Dam the oustees have not received any compensation so far;

(b) if so, the number of Dam oustees who have yet to receive the compensation;

(c) the reasons for non-payment to the oustees; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for early settlement of the compensation cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) The land oustees of Hirakud Dam have since received all compensation towards the acquisition of land.

(b) On the demand of the oustees for additional compensation, the Government of Orissa have decided to pay ex-gratia compensation at the rate of Rs.10,000/- per acre over and above the compensation already paid. Out of 8744 oustees, 3540 oustees are yet to get ex-gratia compensation.